

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/757,750

Examiner

Linh V. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

MENKUS, CHRISTOPHER A.

Art Unit

2819

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3/13/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 26 - 30, 32, 34, 36 - 40, 42, 46 - 49, and 52 - 56.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to communication filed on 3/13/06. Claims 1 – 25, 31, 33, 35, 41, 43-45, 50 and 51 have been canceled. Claims 26, 28, 32, 34, 36, 39, 40, and 52 – 56 have been amended. Claims 26 – 30, 32, 34, 36 – 40, 42, 46 – 49, and 52 – 56 are pending on this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 26 – 30, 32, 34, 36 – 40, 42, 46 – 49, and 52 – 56 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claim 26, in addition to other elements in the claim, the prior art, considered individual or in combination, fails to fairly show or suggest an Analog-to-Digital converter comprising: adjust a parameter of the coarse channel circuit response to the count signal, and wherein the counter circuit is configured to, if latched: increment a count value that is associated with the count signal if the comparator output response to a first level, and decrement the count value if the comparator output response to a second logic level.

With respect to claim 36, in addition to other elements in the claim, the prior art, considered individual or in combination, fails to fairly show or suggest an Analog-to-Digital converter comprising: wherein the parameter adjustment circuit includes a first digital-to-analog converter circuit that is configured to convert the count signal into a first analog signal; and a second digital-to-analog converter circuit that is configured to convert an inverted count signal into a second analog signal.

With respect to claim 39, in addition to other elements in the claim, the prior art, considered individual or in combination, fails to fairly show or suggest an Analog-to-Digital converter comprising: a control circuit providing a selecting signal, and provide a timing signal at a predetermined amount of time after providing the select signal, wherein the coarse channel calibration circuit is configured to latch the output signal in response to the timing signal.

With respect to claim 40, in addition to other elements in the claim, the prior art, considered individual or in combination, fails to fairly show or suggest an Analog-to-Digital converter comprising: assert a timing signal for latching the coarse channel calibration circuit at a predetermined amount of time after a change of the select signal.

With respect to claims 52 - 56, in addition to other elements in the claim, the prior art, considered individual or in combination, fails to fairly show or suggest an Analog-to-Digital converter comprising: the encoder circuit is operable to provide a digital output signal based on the coarse and fine analog-to-digital conversion; and the coarse channel calibration circuit receiving the coarse digital conversion signal and providing an adjustment signal to the array of comparators or array of amplifiers.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Prior Art

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

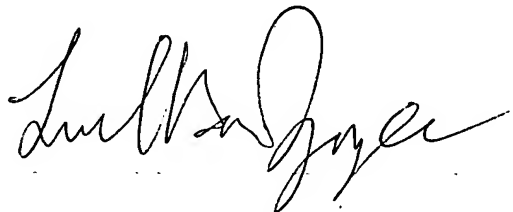
Contact Information

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Linh Van Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1810. The examiner can normally be reached from 8:30 – 5:00 Monday-Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Rexford Barnie can be reached at (571) 272-7492. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (571-273-8300) for regular communications and (571-273-8300) for After Final communications.

3/20/06

Linh Van Nguyen

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Linh Van Nguyen', is written over a horizontal line.